



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Shashank Sharma)
and Mahendra Kumar Sunkara)
)
Filed: June 29, 2001) Examiner: Johnson E.
) Group Art Unit: 1754
Serial No: 09/896,834)
)
For: LOW TEMPERATURE SYNTHESIS OF)
SEMICONDUCTOR FIBERS)
)
Atty. Docket No.: AD138/2001)

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RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

In response to the restriction requirement set forth in the Office Action mailed October 1, 2003, Applicant hereby provisionally elects Group I. (Claims 1-2) for examination with traverse.

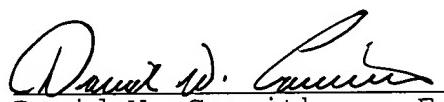
The Examiner has required restriction between: (Claims 1-2 and 3).

Applicant elects to prosecute claims 1-2, and acknowledges the Examiner's withdrawal of claim 3 from consideration as being directed to a non-elected invention

In the present case, although the claimed subject matter may be classified in different subclasses, the inventions are not independent and this classification by itself is an insufficient basis for requiring restriction between the claims. The semiconductor fibers of Group I and silicon fibers of Group II are so intertwined as to be essentially a single invention linked together to provide a novel method of synthesizing semiconductor fibers of silicon or other material. Applicant submits that the processes are linked together as one invention and that the combination of the claims are supported for both processes and the one skilled in the art would search in both subclasses just as the Examiner has done in the present case because of the appearance of the same claimed invention of Group I when viewed by an observer and therefore the claimed invention of Group I and Group II should be considered a single entity. Therefore, the claims to the process of synthesizing silicon fibers as claimed in claim 3 must be examined along with the elected claims to the process of synthesizing semiconductor fibers of Group I.

Applicant respectfully requests that the restriction requirement be withdrawn with respect to Groups I and II, and that the claims to the process of synthesizing semiconductor fibers and silicon fibers presently pending in this application be examined as claiming one invention.

Respectfully submitted,



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